



ST. DUNSTAN PARISH

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SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. - Jn 3:20-21

ST. DUNSTAN

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 15

8:00AM For the People

Tuesday, March 16

8:00AM ☩ Rev. Kevin O'Reilly requested by the Lucey family

Wednesday, March 17

8:00AM ☩ Kevin McBurney requested by the Lundy family

Thursday March 18—Friday, March 19

No Masses

Saturday, March 20

4:00 PM ☩ Winifred Kehoe requested by Margaret Kehoe

Sunday, March 21

8:00 AM ☩ Father John Daly

9:30 AM ☩ Josephine Jasiewicz requested by Jim & Ruth Murphy and Butch & Teresa Jasiewicz

Baptisms:

First and third Sundays of the month, generally. Baptismal preparation class required. Please contact the parish office for scheduling.

Marriages:

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM

Sunday Morning: 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM

Weekday Liturgy: 8:00 AM Monday-Wednesday

Financial Blessings

Mar. 6/7

Weekly Offertory \$6532.00

Online Giving \$2725.50

Monthly \$1634.51

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Online Giving

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Bulletin Submissions and Deadlines

Submissions for the bulletin should be sent to admin@stdunstanparish.org by noon Mondays for publication in the next bulletin. The following are upcoming early deadlines for submissions:

March 28 bulletin: submissions need to be received by noon March 19 and April 4 bulletin: submissions need to be received by noon March 25.



"I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life." John 8:12

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Office hours: Monday-Friday 9 AM to 3 PM.

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Kevin Scott: musicministry@stdunstanparish.org

Joe McGuire: maintenance@stdunstanparish.org

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford are carried forward. We hope you can help our parish meet our goal. If you would like to make a gift, please mail in your pledge card. You may also visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org or call the Appeal Office at 800.781.2550. Keep in mind that an early pledge allows for the best use of the monthly payment plan.

Lenten Scripture Series Continues

Our Lenten Scripture Series continues Thursday, March 18th, from 7 PM to 8:30 PM on Zoom. You do not have to have attended the previous session to come the current session, since we move to the scripture readings for the 5th Sunday in Lent. We will listen in on Jesus' statement that the time for Him to be glorified is at hand, and seek to determine what that means for us. It is a wonderful way to DO SOMETHING POSITIVE for Lent and to learn more about the Word of God! Having your Bible at hand is helpful, but materials will be supplied and emailed if we have your email address. The meetings are informal and participation is encouraged. For more information call Walter Twachtman 860.202.5867 or wtwachtman@bpslawyers.com. See you on Zoom!

Stations of the Cross

St. Dunstan Church: Wednesdays at Noon

St. Paul Church: Fridays at 7 p.m.

The Feb. 24th Stations of the Cross are available to watch on Facebook anytime. Send a membership request to our Facebook group, "St. Dunstan Parish Glastonbury", if you aren't already a member.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Dear Parishioners:

The book that I referenced in a homily recently is Erik Larson's *The Splendid and the Vile*. If you are interested in World War II history and / or biographies, this would be a good read for you. I highly recommend it!

At the present time I am also reading *The Catholic Guide to Loneliness* by Dr. Kevin Yost. This is another book I recommend, especially for someone who might be experiencing loneliness in our present Covid environment or has a friend or relative in this situation. It is not a heavy read and actually is somewhat amusing in parts, given the author's writing style.

Toward the end of the book Dr. Yost quotes Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'* (#47):

"Real relationships with others, with all the challenges they entail, now tend to be replaced by a type of internet communication that enables us to choose or eliminate relationships at whim, thus giving rise to a new type of contrived emotion that has more to do with devices and displays than with other people and with nature. Today's media do enable us to communicate and share our knowledge and affections. Yet at times they also shield us from direct contact with the pain, the fears and the joys of others and the complexity of their personal experiences. For this reason, we should be concerned that, alongside the exciting possibilities offered by these media, a deep and melancholic dissatisfaction with interpersonal relationships, or a harmful sense of isolation, can also arise."

This warning from Pope Francis is one that we all (and especially parents) should take to heart.

As the 2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal has just gotten underway, I would like to thank all those who have already made a pledge or gift. One of the areas of diocesan life that regularly benefits from the financial support of the AAA is the well being of our retired priests. Of course, our parish was served for five years as pastor by Msgr. John J. McCarthy (who also provided weekend support for many years), who is now living in the Archbishop Cronin Residence in Bloomfield. Msgr. McCarthy and other retired priests will directly benefit from the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. I hope many will pledge / donate to the Appeal in honor of Msgr. McCarthy with gratitude for his many years of priestly service. As I like to say, it is important that every household participates in the AAA, at a level that is appropriate and consistent with circumstances. Thank you, again, for your support.

Fr. Kevin
fr.donovan@aohct.org

Words to Inspire



"I plead with you--never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."
Pope John Paul II

A Lenten Reflection

By Effie Calderola (Catholic News Service)

Jesus, as I make the 40-day pilgrimage through Lent, I ask that my journey may always be at your side. My one Lenten goal, indeed the one goal of my life, is to enter into a relationship with you. What I do, the time I give to prayer, the sacrifices I make — I ask that all may be done as a way of growing in my closeness to you, my friendship with you, my risen Lord.

During Lent, I find myself called to Matthew 25:31-46. In this reading, Jesus, you tell your friends what is necessary to make the kingdom of God our heritage. You didn't lay down onerous, bureaucratic rules, or ask us to memorize catechism pages, or become great theologians and scholars. Instead, you made what was expected of us clear in practical and very human terms: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, visit the sick and the imprisoned.

Jesus, every day of Lent, I might revisit Matthew 25 and ask, how am I doing in following these commands? I am especially aware in this reading of something remarkable: When I visit the sick or feed the hungry, I'm not doing it solely for the individual in need. I am quite literally doing it for you.

In the words of St. Teresa of Kolkata, Jesus often comes to us "in his most distressing disguise," the poor. And if that's where you are, then that's where I should be, in relationship with you. And in meeting the poor, I am also becoming Christ. As St. Teresa of Avila said, "Christ has no body now on earth but yours. ... Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world."

During this Lent of 2021, I find myself in a world often consumed by anger and vitriol toward others. Sometimes I even find a slow burn of anger in my own heart. Sometimes the "other" is she who doesn't agree with me politically. Sometimes the "other" is he who is an immigrant, a refugee, a person who doesn't look like me. Sometimes the "other" are those who try to impose their beliefs on me. Even within the church, people point fingers and feel anger, self-righteousness, certainty and rigidity about their own ideas. Whose side do I take?

Jesus, I take your side. And you always reached out to all of us. You eschewed violence, hypocrisy, self-importance. You pointed to the tax collector at the back of the Temple, not the self-righteous Pharisee proclaiming his goodness in the front (Lk 18:9-14). You spoke of love, not a saccharine, greeting card kind of love, but the gritty and hard love that reaches across barriers between people and shows itself in service. Sometimes at the beginning of Lent, I ponder what I should "do" for Lent. Giving up chocolate or a nightly glass of wine may strengthen and discipline me. But, in my heart, I must ask the basic question, what leads me to the heart of Jesus? This is my life's sole destination.

Help me to spend time daily in silent prayer. Guide me to the help I need with this. Have I been wanting a spiritual director but procrastinating in this desire? Do I find excuses for setting aside prayer time? Do I want to give more, but find my own wants getting in the way of generosity and service? Let this Lent be a time to move forward. Lord, you are the companion I seek, my life's destination. Help me to be with you this Lent in prayer and service.

March 14, 2021

Faith Formation Update

March wraps up the formal classes this year for our faith formation program and we are already planning for the 2021/22 school year. Registration for the 2021/22 school year will be held online in May this year. Details will be emailed in April to all currently in the program as well as posted on our registration page on our website.

Many students have been giving alms during Lent again this year. Our Confirmation students made meals for the men at the ImmaCare shelter in Hartford, a fifth grade class donated to CCMC's toy drive and delivered hand made cards with them, fourth and fifth graders made no sew blankets to give to residents at Glastonbury Healthcare, some second graders are doing extra chores for their parents, and a few eighth grade girls made a video lesson on a book that teaches children that not all gifts come wrapped in a box. Sharon Champagne is also leading a small group of middle school girls in a Bible study this Lent.

What was a challenging year is closing out with many displays of our Catholic faith.

New Signs

In the coming week you may notice that our St. Dunstan signs at the driveway entrances to church are missing. They are being refurbished in celebration of our 50th anniversary. Hopefully they will be back in 3-4 weeks time.



**Jim DiCaprio, John Paul Muckle, Bill Mislick,
Matt Acunto, Tommy Aylward, Kevin Galvin**

Maintaining our Prayer Request List

Please call or email the office (admin@stdunstanparish.org) to add someone to our prayer request list. We will print each name for one month; in order for the request to remain beyond that time, please email or call us each month. As always, please make sure that the person knows that we are publishing his or her name for prayers.



Readings for the week of March 14, 2021

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/ Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 or 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/ Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/ Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/ Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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